

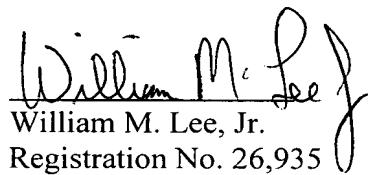
Remarks

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency before calculation of the national filing fee in the United States. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is unintended, and the Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the filing fee for the United States.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

March 7, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



William M. Lee, Jr.
Registration No. 26,935

Lee, Mann, Smith, McWilliams,
Sweeney & Ohlson
P.O. Box 2786
Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786
(312) 368-6620
(312) 368-0034 (fax)

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE